



Interagency Committee on Employees with Disabilities (ICED)

NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

# DISABILITY: PART OF THE EQUITY EQUATION

# 2022 ICED Annual Awards Celebration October 6, 2022

Master of Ceremonies: Sol Flores, Deputy Governor, State of Illinois

Keynote Speaker: Nanette Larson, Deputy Director, IL Dept. of Human Services

555 W. Monroe, 1st floor, Illinois Room12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.Virtual & In-Person







# ICED

#### Interagency Committee on Employees with Disabilities

An individual who wishes to serve as one of the 7 statutory members of the Committee appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Governor must be a State employee with a disability.

"State Employee" as defined in the statue is an employee of a State agency. "State agency" means all officers, boards, commissions, and agencies created by the Constitution in the executive branch; all officers, departments, boards, commission, agencies, institutions, authorities, universities, bodies politic and corporate of the State; and administrative units or corporate outgrowths of the State government which are created by or pursuant to statue, other than units of local government and their officers, school districts, and boards of election commissioners; all administrative units and corporate outgrowths of the above and as may be created by executive order of the Governor.

If you meet the qualifications, you can nominate yourself for consideration from the Governor for appointment to the Committee by completing the nomination form found on the website for "The Governor's Office of Executive Appointments." Search for ICED under "Board or Commission Name." Employees with Disabilities, Interagency Committee on."

The purpose and function of the Committee are:

- To provide a forum where problems of general concern to State employees with disabilities can be raised and methods of their resolution can be suggested to the appropriate State agencies;
- To provide a clearing house of information for State employees with disabilities by working with those agencies to develop and retain such information;
- To promote affirmative action efforts pertaining to the employment of persons with disabilities by State agencies; and
- To recommend, where appropriate, means of strengthening the affirmative action programs of employees with disabilities in State agencies.



Thursday, October 6, 2022

# PROGRAM

# **2022 ICED Annual Awards Celebration**

# DISABILITY: PART OF THE EQUITY EQUATION

Master of Ceremonies

Sol Flores, Deputy Governor, State of Illinois

### Welcome & State Agency Accomplishments

Grace Hou, Secretary, Illinois Department of Human Services

\* James Bennett, Director, Illinois Department of Human Rights

# ICED 2022 GOALS Update

#### **Keynote Speaker**

\* Nanette Larson, Deputy Director, Illinois Department of Human Services

### Awards Ceremony

Outstanding Employee of the Year
Janinna Hendricks, Associate Director of Finance and Operations,

Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities (ICDD)

Outstanding State Agency of the Year Illinois Department of Innovation & Technology (DoIT)

Outstanding Advocate of the Year Karen Tamley, President and CEO, Access Living

Outstanding Legislator of the Year
State Representative Lindsey LaPointe, 19th District

## Master of Ceremony: Sol Flores

**Sol Flores** serves as Deputy Governor in the Pritzker administration overseeing Health and Human Services. As Deputy Governor, she helped oversee the



administration's response to COVID-19 including housing relief and vaccination efforts. Additionally, Flores spearheads the administration's efforts around poverty alleviation, hunger relief, expanding healthcare access to all, and the strengthening the state's safety nets for its most vulnerable residents. She is the founding Executive Director of La Casa Norte, a nonprofit organization established in 2002 that has served more than 30,000 youth and families confronting homelessness. Flores built La Casa Norte from two employees to a multi-million-dollar organization that

delivers inspiration, hope and critical services to the lives of youth and families experiencing homelessness. She has served on numerous working groups, commissions and local nonprofit boards as a tireless advocate. Flores was raised by a single mother who came to Chicago from Puerto Rico and has been recognized as a national Champion of Change for her work by the Obama White House.

### Keynote Speaker: Nanette Larson

Since 1999, **Nanette Larson** has worked with the Illinois Department of Human Services/Division of Mental Health. In her 20+ years, Ms. Larson has



served in a variety of positions within the Division. She currently serves as the Deputy Director of Wellness & Recovery Services. Ms. Larson provides leadership and consultation to further the development of recoveryoriented services and advances the division's recovery initiatives, including Wellness Recovery Action Planning (WRAP®) and Certified Recovery Support Specialist (CRSS) training and development. Ms. Larson serves as the President Emeritus of the Division of Recovery Support Services for the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors and is a nationally

recognized leader & subject matter expert in holistic wellness, mental health recovery and recovery-oriented practices. She has co-authored several professional journal articles.

## Outstanding Employee of the Year Janinna Hendricks Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities

**Janinna Hendricks** has dedicated her entire 35 year career to the State of Illinois through her service to the Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities



(ICDD). The mission of ICDD is to create systems change that ensures that all people with developmental disabilities in Illinois have access to equal opportunities and freedom. She is currently a Senior Public Service Administrator, specifically the Associate Director of Finance and Operations for the agency. In her tenure her financial oversight has contributed to the responsible disbursement of over \$70 million in grant funds that have directly positively impacted people with developmental disabilities. Janinna has a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Blackburn College and a Master's

Degree in Health Service Administration from Sangamon State University. Janinna has served as the Board President of the Jacksonville Area Center for Independent Living. She also serves many supportive roles at Waverly First Baptist Church and enjoys spending time following her nieces' and nephews' sporting events, mentoring children, and is voracious reader.

# Outstanding Advocate of the Year: Karen Tamley

In March 2020, **Karen Tamley** became the new President and CEO of Access Living, a Chicago-based service and advocacy non-profit organization



for people with disabilities. In her new role, Karen has returned to her roots, having served in multiple positions at Access Living from 1996 to 2005, under Access Living's founding CEO Marca Bristo. Prior to becoming Access Living's CEO, Karen served three Chicago Mayors as Commissioner of the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities. As Commissioner, Karen advanced accessibility and disability inclusion in the areas of transportation, city infrastructure, technology, emergency planning, education, and employment and oversaw the delivery of direct services to thousands

of Chicago's disabled youth and adults. In 2015, Karen received the Motorola

#### Outstanding Advocate of the Year: Karen Tamley continued

Solutions Excellence in Public Service Award from the Civic Federation, which recognizes a non-elected government official for having an extraordinary impact on the quality of state and local government services in Illinois. In 2016, President Obama appointed Karen to serve on the United States Access Board, which develops national accessibility guidelines and standards, and she was elected as Chair in 2019. Most recently, Karen served as a member of the Biden-Harris Presidential Transition team. She lives in Chicago with her husband, Kevin Irvine, and their teenage daughter. All three have disabilities themselves and are actively involved in disability advocacy locally and nationally.

# Outstanding State Agency of the Year: Illinois Department of Innovation & Technology (DoIT)





The Illinois Department of Innovation & Technology (DoIT), headed by Secretary Jennifer Ricker, delivers

technology and telecommunication services to state government agencies, boards, and commissions. In furtherance of its mission, DoIT implements innovative and effective solutions in recognition that access to government services increasingly occurs virtually.

From improved video conferencing capabilities with closed captioning and screen reader notifications to greater website accessibility, DoIT has made significant progress in enhancing IT access for state employees and residents. Earlier this year, Secretary Ricker's vision of establishing an Office of Information Accessibility

was realized. DoIT has hired the state's inaugural Chief Information Accessibility Officer, who will serve as the primary authority in ensuring the accessibility of information and information systems for people with disabilities, as well as maintaining compliance with state and federal accessibility requirements.

By focusing on constructive partnerships with disability advocates, employees and residents with disabilities, and private-sector partners, in addition to emphasizing longterm, systemic improvements rather than just short-term solutions, DoIT has improved accessibility in ways that will benefit people with disabilities for years to come.

# Outstanding Legislator of the Year: Representative Lindsey LaPointe 19th District

**Lindsey LaPointe** is a social worker turned public policy professional with a breadth of experience in human services, state government, policy advocacy,



and community and political work. She is currently the State Representative for the 19th House district which covers the far Northwest Side of Chicago. Before taking office in July of 2019, she was a senior project manager at Business and Professional People for the Public Interest (BPI), a Chicago-based nonprofit, where she worked on issues of public safety and criminal justice reform. Prior to BPI, she served in state government as the Program Manager for Adult Redeploy Illinois, working with more than 40 Illinois counties on court-based alternatives to incarceration. In

the neighborhood, she has worked alongside her neighbors on various projects including increasing women's involvement in politics, being a founding member of the Jefferson Park Working Group on Homelessness, advocating for a variety of housing options and campaigning for Democratic candidates. In Springfield, she has been a champion on issues like accessible housing, expanding access to healthcare and mental health, human services and worker protections during COVID-19. Originally from Maine, she earned a BA in Sociology from Grinnell College and holds a master's in social work from the Jane Addams School of Social Work at the University of Illinois in Chicago. She resides in the heart of the 19th district - Jefferson Park.

#### The Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS)



The Department of Human Services is one of Illinois' largest agencies, with more than 13,000 employees.

Illinois created IDHS in 1997, to provide our state's residents with streamlined access to integrated services, especially those who are striving to move from welfare to work and economic independence, and others who face multiple challenges to self-sufficiency.

IDHS is proud of its diversity, efficiency, and the services that the agency and its community partners provide to Illinois citizens.

#### Vision, Mission, and Core Values

#### Our vision, mission, and core values define what we stand for and believe in.

Our vision defines what we aspire towards.

Our mission statement defines what we are here to do.

Our core values are the guiding principles that shape our behavior and actions.

#### **IDHS** continued

OUR VISION: All people in Illinois achieve their full potential.

**OUR MISSION:** Providing equitable access to social/human services, supports, programs and resources to enhance the lives of all who we serve.

**OUR CORE VALUES:** Human Dignity · Equity · Community Informed · Urgency · Transparency · Kindness

Customer Help Line: 1-800-843-6154 · 1-866-324-5553 TTY. Use the IDHS Customer Help Line for questions about case status, benefits, services or eligibility. Staff are available 8:00 am - 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday, except State holidays. For more information see <u>Customer Frequently Asked Questions</u> (FAQ). Provider Help Line: 1-800-804-3833 · 1-877-434-1082 TTY. Childcare Providers and Personal Assistants with questions about payments can call the IDHS Provider Help Line.

#### Illinois Department of Human Rights (IDHR)

The Department of Human Rights administers the Illinois Human Rights Act. The <u>Illinois</u> <u>Human Rights Act</u> ("Act") prohibits discrimination in Illinois with respect to employment, financial credit, public accommodations and real estate transactions on the bases of race, color, religion, sex (including sexual harassment), national origin, ancestry, military status, age (40 and over), order of protection status, marital status, sexual orientation (which includes gender-related identity), unfavorable military discharge and physical and mental disability. The Act also prohibits sexual harassment in education, discrimination because of citizenship status and arrest record in employment, and discrimination based on familial status in real estate transactions.

A discrimination charge can be initiated by calling, writing or appearing in person at the Department's Chicago or Springfield office within 300 days of the date the alleged discrimination took place in all cases except housing discrimination (one year filing deadline).

#### **IDHR Mission Statement**

- To secure for all individuals within the State of Illinois freedom from unlawful discrimination, and;
- To establish and promote equal opportunity and affirmative action as the policy of this state for all its residents.

#### **IDHR Vision Statement**

We, the employees of the Illinois Department of Human Rights, believe that everyone has an inalienable right to live free from discrimination, in every aspect of life. We are dedicated to delivering quality service to the people of Illinois with integrity, honesty and respect.

#### Contact

#### **Illinois Department of Human Rights**

312-814-6200 (voice), 217-785-5100 (voice) 866-740-3953 (TTY)

www.illinois.gov/dhr

#### Illinois Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Helpline:

1-877-236-7703 www.illinois.gov/sexualharassment

